

PUPP'S

195 Maple Ave.
at Prince Charles Drive,
Wexford

Improving access

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Packin' it in

Students helping other countries.
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Sitting ovation

Stands built for athletic field.
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Rates need lowering?

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I'M THERE



IMPORT NEWS

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■ **PORT COLBORNE FOOD DRIVE:** Donations benefit Reach Out Food Centre



LINDSAY COSTELLO Tribune Photo

A group of volunteers works together to unload a fire truck filled with donations collected throughout the city during the 18th annual Port Colborne Lions Food Drive on Saturday morning.

Volunteers take it to the bank

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For The Tribune

PORT COLBORNE – Hundreds of volunteers were on the hunt for donations during the Port Colborne Lions Club 18th annual food drive on Saturday.

For the first time, proceeds from the drive were donated to the Port Cares' Out Food Centre. The Nickel St. facility, which served its first meal in July, is now the city's primary food bank and has the means to store the variety of products that were collected.

"It's our staple, it's the big one that keeps us going," Reach Out Food Centre operations co-ordinator Rachelle Anderson of the drive.

See **FOOD** | page 2

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FOOD

Fresh food, Canadian Tire money collected

FROM PAGE 1

In addition to non-perishables and cash donations, the food drive collected fresh food as well as Canadian Tire money which will be used to purchase supplies used to store and distribute donations.

Food drive chairman Jason Hockley said collecting fresh food is beneficial

because it will provide food bank users with more balanced nutrition.

Anderson said that while there are food bank users who continue to use the centre's services, she is constantly meeting new clients and seeing an increased need.

"The need is great all year round," said Anderson, adding contributions from the food

The need is great all year round."

Rachell Anderson, operations co-ordinator

drive will keep the shelves stocked well into the 2012.

Hockley said he is surprised by the number of people who came out to support the drive, adding there were between 400

and 500 volunteers working together this year.

"It's just like a well-oiled machine," said Jason Hockley, who has chaired the drive for the past two years, of the efficient process by which food is collected

and sorted. "It's amazing."

Groups of runners headed out from the Christian Life Assembly at 9:30 a.m. to begin collecting donations throughout the neighbourhood, while others stayed behind to unload incoming vehicles and sort food by type.

Hockley expressed his gratitude toward the food drive's supporters, adding it is great to see so many

donations despite an increase in need.

"I know times are tough right now and it's harder to give, but we do appreciate those who do," he said.

Anderson shared a similar sentiment.

"The Reach Out Food Centre really appreciates the support of the Lions Club and the community," she said. "We couldn't do it without them."

■ **MUSEUM:** New ramp and washrooms being installed

Improving access

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Visitors to the city's museum won't recognize the front reception area when work on it and an accessible entrance and washrooms are completed this year.

And revamping the reception area isn't the only work being carried out at Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum said curator Stephanie Powell Baswick.

"We're having the entire foundation sealed, so that it's water tight and nothing gets in the basement," she said of the first project being carried out.

During a recent visit to the museum, Powell Baswick was on site and the south side of the building had the original foundation exposed in preparation for its sealing.

There was some water in the basement, but no damage was ever done

to any artifacts. The basement, Baswick said, was used mainly to store props and signs for Canal Days.

With capital budget funds and funding secured from the federal government, all of the work being done will improve the museum and keep the 1861 building, once home to Arabella Williams, functioning well into the future, she added.

Funding for the accessible entrance, on the north side of the museum, was secured in late October from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada at \$73,500.

The rest of the \$116,900 project is coming from capital funds and from a bequest fund.

The bequest fund, said Baswick, is money donated to the museum by those who have passed away.

Port Erie architect Jason Pizzicarella is designing the new reception area and accessible washrooms and Stok

Construction, of Port Colborne, will be installing the new ramp on the north side.

"Anyone will be able to come in and see the exhibits now," she said, clearly excited about the work and bow it will improve the museum.

With an aging volunteer base, some members couldn't even access the museum.

"I had to meet some people outside," said Baswick, happy those volunteers will now be able to come see her inside.

The new washrooms will be in high contrast colours for those who are visually-impaired.

Everything being done, she said, will be keeping, as much as possible, with the heritage element of the museum, a Georgian Revival home.

"I think the museum will be more inviting and reach more people," Baswick said of the improvements.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum curator Stephanie Powell Baswick stands at the front door of the museum. The entrance will soon be accessible, as will washrooms inside. The reception area will also be improved.



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portraits

■ **BRIDGE:** Community Health Centre says all welcome

Program designed for caregivers

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Caring for a relative with dementia, a disabled child or a friend who needs help is not an easy thing to do day in and day out.

It can take a toll on those providing care, but a new group at Bridges Community Health Centre is there to offer support to caregivers in the community.

Linda Ressler, a social worker with Bridges, said the Caregiver Support Group is now running at the centre, 177 King St., Port Colborne, and the next meeting is Friday, Nov. 11.

"Anyone is welcome to come out. We meet from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the community room here ... just show up," she said, adding the group will meet the second Friday of each month.

As for who caregivers are, Ressler said it could be someone caring for a family member, like a child with a disability or helping a neighbour or friend by taking them to cancer treatments.

"Often people hear the word caregiver and don't think they are a caregiver."

She said parents who care for child who may have a disability consider what they are doing as parenting, but they are caregivers and they, like others, need a break from the demands placed on them.

"One of the biggest problems is that it's hard to get a break and even when caregivers get time off, they still feel responsible for the person (they are caring for). There's always a sense of responsibility or the person's well being."

She said caregivers carry that responsibility with them and always feel like they are on duty.

While Ressler works with caregivers one-on-one, what she's hoping for from



Bridges Community Health Centre social worker Linda Ressler says a Caregiver Support Program is underway at Bridges every second Friday of the month.

the group is for caregivers to meet and realize there are others in the same positions they are.

"They get to be with other people who really appreciate, to a greater extent, what it feels like to be a caregiver. They get to normalize that experience so they don't feel so all alone in carrying the weight of being in the position they are."

People who have attended

a similar group that meets in Port Erie, which is also home to Bridges, have shared their experiences and talk about what it's like in an environment where they feel safe.

"Caregivers can talk about when they lose their patience and no one will judge them. It's a real place of safety," said Ressler.

A huge element of being a caregiver is there is a grief factor involved.

"Whenever we the distance of between of what we wish would be and what is, we have grief and it's not often identified as grief. We acknowledge that grief in the group."

The group in Fort Erie, which usually sees between six and 10 people attend meetings, has also used a book called *From Surviving to Thriving: Transforming Your Caregiver Journey*, talk-

ing about various chapters and how things apply in their own lives.

"It's a challenge being a caregiver and often people do it all themselves."

She hopes with the group in Port Colborne, caregivers can help each other by talking to one another and utilizing resources that are in the community.

As a social worker, Ressler knows what programs,

services and community resources are available and can steer people in the right direction.

Any caregivers interested in taking part in the Port Colborne meetings can just show up this coming Friday at Bridges, 177 King St., Port Colborne, and take part. Ressler can also be reached at Bridges at 289-479-5017.

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■ ourview

Remembering fallen

Today is Remembrance Day, a day where, locally, we gather at H.H. Knoll Lakeshore Park in Port Colborne and remember all those who have fallen in service of Canada from the First World War through to Afghanistan.

While we take time out at 11 a.m. for a moment of silence, we can only imagine what soldiers were going through as they headed off to war.

So today, instead of an editorial about the day itself, InPort News is publishing a letter written by Anthony Dembsky of the Canadian Armed Forces. Dembsky served with the Canadian Fusiliers in a Company and D Company in the Second World War. His unit was sent to Kiska, Alaska under the command of an American force to take on the Japanese army which occupied some of the Aleutian Islands.

Reading some of the letters — the letters were purchased a number of years ago by InPort News editor Dave Johnson — one learns that Dembsky may have worked for Inco in Sudbury or Port Colborne. The letters to his home show addresses on Mitchell St. and Gordon St. in Port Colborne.

Most of his letters have to do with how Dembsky is feeling and questions about family and friends back home. The letter below is just a sample of what this particular soldier wrote while at base, sea and finally, Kiska:

July 30/43

Dear Pat:

Received your reply of the 13th and it was sure swell. A letter from home is like a God's sent virtue these days and especially out here when a person has plenty of time to read.

So Herb's family was over glad to hear it and I know you must of given them the same kind and generous hospitality as they rendered us during our short stay while in Buffalo. They are sure a swell couple and well matched. Will drop Herb a card if you forward his correct address my memory has run short. Say you still forgot to mention dad. Received a reply from Nick this morning and he had said you wrote. Have you heard anything from Mary. Would deeply appreciate a good set of snapshots as you know I haven't any real good ones.

Won't be able to state my duties here at any time all you call do is stress your imagination and if I recall correctly your a wizard at that because there were not things I did back home that you didn't know of. Herb's Bobby is he still into everything and what is he like defending himself against those little brats that hang around the house at times.

Well Pat I'll sign off now and hoping to hear from you real soon.

I remain the same.

Always Your Loving Husband

Tony

■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

REV. GORD ABRAHAM
Port Colborne Baptist

Last week was All Saints' Day. Every year in our church, on that day or the following Sunday, we remember all who have died in Christ, especially those who died in the past year.

Today is Remembrance Day. Almost every year since I've lived in Port Colborne I've attended the ceremony at the cenotaph down at H.H. Knoll Lakeshore Park. Together with members of the Legion, school children, politicians, and plenty of ordinary folks we remember the sacrifice and service of men and women who served in our armed forces in wars and peacekeeping missions on behalf of all Canadians when called on by our government.

I don't think I'll ever observe either of these two occasions again without thinking of Tyler Crooks. I didn't know Tyler. Many in Port Colborne and surrounding area didn't know him. But that didn't stop us all from grieving with his family and friends and honouring him as we mourned his death suffered during his service as a soldier in Afghanistan.

It has been over two-and-a-half years since his death. We gathered as a community, lining the streets as his body was brought home to Port Colborne. We gathered by the hundreds in the church, the church hall, and the auditorium at Lakeshore High for his funeral service with hundreds more lining the streets for the slow drive to the cemetery in Bechtel.

I was honoured to preside at his

funeral, to share in the grief of the mourners, to give voice to sorrow, to thank God for Tyler's life, as short as it was, and to entrust him into the hands of God. We trust in God's promise in baptism that we are claimed by Christ forever, and we rest in the sure hope of the resurrection.

As honoured as I was to preside at that funeral, it was hard for me. As thankful as I am for the service and sacrifice of those who have served in the armed forces on my behalf, the Remembrance Day ceremony evokes ambivalent feelings in me.

You see, I'm a pacifist. At least I have pacifist tendencies. I have to agree with one pastor who once said that he didn't know just how committed he'd be to pacifism if someone was threatening his wife and children. But I try to avoid violence.

I try to pursue peaceful resolutions to conflict. I told the military chaplain who came from Petawawa that I found the guns carried by the honour guard and fired at the cemetery disturbing, even frightening.

Besides trying to be a pacifist, I'm a father of four children and young adults. I think about the world that we're creating for our children. When my parents were teenagers they were refugees in Europe, fleeing the dangers of war, just trying to survive. Now their grandchildren are teenagers and, while they don't live with the same kind of danger, another of their countrymen was killed last week on the other side of the world in Afghanistan.

What kind of world are we creating

for our children? Is it a world where problems can only be solved through force? There's a saying that goes something like, "If the only tool you have is a hammer, every problem starts to look like a nail." But what if we stock our toolbox with different tools, things like love, compassion, mercy, forgiveness?

Our Lord Jesus said things like, "Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also" (Matthew 5:39). He also said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9). The prophets Isaiah and Micah dreamed of the day when the nations "shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks" (Isaiah 2:4; Micah 4:3).

What would our world look like if we set aside the hammer in favour of love, compassion, mercy, and forgiveness? What would the relationships between nations be like if, instead of facing each other with swords and spears and the other weapons they've evolved into, we picked up plowshares and pruning hooks and faced each other with food for the hungry?

I don't have all the answers. But I pray, I pray for the men and women in the armed forces who are sent into harm's way.

And I give thanks for the service and sacrifice of those who fought to secure the peace that we do enjoy.

And I pray that God's great love would shine on our sorrows and the waste of our wrath, to give peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts.

■ COLUMN

Revisiting some election hot-button issues

I've learned in my first year of office (and was already prepared) that being the mayor is an all day, every day position, even on your own birthday dinner where I was questioned about the number of cars in the employee parking lot at the township office and why we were hiring yet another employee.

Unfortunately, Wainfleet attracts a lot of negative attention for what is perceived to be a large complement of



April Jeffs
MAYOR'S COLUMN

administrative staff and senior management. Time and again we've heard residents tell us about minimal population growth versus the doubling of township employees.

Overstaffing was a concern that I heard repeatedly along

the campaign trail. I was careful with what I committed myself to as I was certain there had to be a reason for the various positions. One thing I did commit myself to was that I knocked on doors was the potential for combining duties and roles.

Bylaw enforcement was another hot button issue. Last fall, and our council was committed from day one to look into a more effective way to deliver this very necessary enforcement function.

Up until now the township has shared its bylaw enforcement, building code and drainage services with Pelham and West Lincoln.

This past spring, Pelham informed us that they had outgrown the agreement related to sharing the bylaw officer, chief building official and building inspector and needed these employees back in their municipality on a full time basis.

See MAYOR | page 5

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■ MAYOR

Statutory positions mandated

FROM PAGE 4

The timing was perfect and we set out to create a full-time position in Wainfleet that rolled all three positions into one.

A full-time position will create a much faster response time to complaints. Having access to the shared service on a part-time basis has resulted in a backlog of unresolved complaints and open files. As with bylaw enforcement, having a chief building official in house will facilitate faster permits and approvals and better communication between the township and applicants.

So the big question is — and rightfully so — how much is this going to cost the taxpayer? Well, it is important to know that building enforcement responsibilities are not funded through property tax revenue but instead with permit fees. Combining the three positions and having the service in house will not result in any added costs to the taxpayer and will provide improved service to our residents under this new delivery model.

Like other positions, such as clerk and treasurer, chief building official is a statutory position that is required by legislation.

Statutory positions are positions that the province requires us to have on board. But in Wainfleet our staff is not limited to duties that provincial rules require them to do, most of our staff has been assigned extra functions that would not be a part of their duties if they worked in a larger town. This allows the township to provide all of the programs and services that the residents enjoy — and the

province requires — without it being too expensive for taxpayers. One of the things that I've learned as mayor is that the province doesn't let us off the hook because we are smaller, rather they hold us to the same standard as the biggest cities in Ontario. The trouble is that we have to meet this standard with a budget that is very small.

Council realizes that Wainfleet is a small municipality in terms of population with a very large area of land, and we don't foresee substantial growth in the near future. Having said that, the province continues to add more requirements and red tape to residents, businesses and municipal offices without regard for our ability to budget for these new responsibilities and requirements. I can assure you that every time that council makes a decision we do it with the best interests of the taxpayer in mind. This includes financial increases.

It is inevitable that property taxes will increase over time — the cost of business goes up every year, even for a small town — but council tries to limit these increases by prioritizing our spending decisions, delivering services in an innovative way, and looking for opportunities to do more with less.

So in closing, I hope I was able to provide some clarification in terms of staffing at the township.

I am always available for questions should you contact the township office or run into me at the grocery store, gas station, Aveda/sle, etc.

■ COLUMN

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

Let me forget.

Today Port Colborne honours those who have passed while fighting for our freedom with a ceremony at the H.H. Knoll Park cenotaph, beginning at 10:45.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 56 is an instrumental part in educating the public about the importance of remembrance and invites the public to an open house at its Clarence St. facility following the ceremony.

Legion members have also been invited to hold the opening ceremonies for tonight's Junior B Hockey Game at Westside Arena. While today is a time of reflection, the spirit of Remembrance Day holds a place in the lives of many all year round.

"We try to be a big part [of the community]," said the Legion's Poppy Chair and Veterans Service Officer Gary Bozzato.

"Whenever we can be helpful to the city, we do it," he said, adding the legion holds many events throughout the year.

One tradition everyone can share in is the legion's annual Poppy Campaign.

By sporting the famous flower, not only are we showing support for those affected by the tragedies of war, but also uniting as a community.

The campaign, which began Oct. 29, is designed to provide assistance to veterans and their dependents in need.

"So far, we have purchased over 15,000 poppies for the campaign," said Bozzato. "The city of Port Colborne really supports the poppy campaign."

he said, adding he sees support from all facets of the community with everyone from businesses to schools proudly wearing the symbol of remembrance.

He said the legion currently has about 75 registered veterans, 40 of which attended a veteran's dinner in October.

While the Poppy Fund generated from the annual campaigns assists veterans in need, one does not need to be a legion member in order to receive support. Some of the ways the fund helps out include providing food, shelter and medical attention for veterans and their families.

Among those helping the legion distribute the poppies this year are members of the Port Colborne Air Cadets.

See LINDSAY | page 6

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■ LINDSAY

Youths to assist in honour guard at ceremony

FROM PAGE 5

"The poppy campaign is very important to the community and the kids really get on board with it," said Julie Sheppard, an Air Cadets training officer. In addition to assisting with the poppy campaign

the group, which consists of youth aged 12 to 18, will perform the honour guard at this morning's ceremony and assist in the wreath laying. The group, which originally formed during the Second World

War with the purpose of preparing those interested in joining the forces for battle when they became of age, is now a youth group that teaches both life skills and the practices of the Canadian Forces.



LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo
Air Cadets instructor Grant Wilson, Cpl. Jack Hickey, training officer Julie Sheppard, Sgt. Mike Mascitelli and instructor John Bruneau assisted with the Royal Canadian Legion's Poppy Campaign this past Saturday.

■ COLUMN

Toy breeds seen in paintings



Sandie Bingley
IT'S A DOGS LIFE

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They were never to be sold or leave China and theft of these dogs resulted in death for the thief. It was felt that the Pekinese was a sacred dog and would keep away evil spirits in the royal family. Some of the Pekies were tiny enough to be tucked up the wide sleeves of the royal's robes and carried around that way. Thus they were known as "sleeve pekes". In 1860 when the British stormed the Imperial

Palace in Peking, they found most of the Pekies dead throughout the palace. The royal family had killed their beloved dogs rather than see them go out of China.

Then the royal family committed suicide. In one of the royal rooms 4 Pekies were found alive hiding behind some long draperies.

See DOGS | page 11

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■ IMPROVING THE LOOK OF PORT

Number of community improvement plans underway

EDDIE CHAU
InPort News Staff

COLBORNE — Beautifying a city can really add up in the end. Port Colborne council will have to put its thinking cap on during budget deliberations in early 2012 on how much money will be allocated to its community improvement plans (CIP).

The city currently has three active CIPs — Main St., Downtown Central Business District and Brownfield — and two more, Industrial and East Village Waterfront, in the works.

The \$50,000 that went towards an incentive program offered by Port Colborne to beautify properties was recently zapped after it received 20 applications.

Director of planning and development Dan Aquilina said it's up to council's discretion to devote more funds to the program in the 2012 budget.

"Last year it was one-time funding," he said. "Council will now have to decide what to do when budget process comes up."

Aquilina noted any money devoted to the incentive program applies to all open CIPs.

Mayor Vance Badawey said while

the Main St. CIP is about wrapped up, the Downtown CIP is currently in a design phase with reports coming back to council sometime next year.

Aquilina said the design process outlines the finer, "nitty gritty" details of streetscape redesign such as the colour of bricks or the type of concrete to be used.

Once the design is completed and a contractor is named, Aquilina said all that's needed to continue the project is funding.

"More funding will be needed before a shovel hits the ground," he said. "Main St. was \$5.6 million. The downtown is four times the size."

Right now there's no money from provincial and federal government. A decision has to be made on how to fund it."

The Brownfield CIP, which hopes to achieve redevelopment of idle or contaminated lands, is underway as well. While this particular CIP does not offer an incentive program, it does outline several grant programs including building permits, environmental site assessment and property tax assistance, to name a few, to aid owners rehabilitate their properties.

See **PLANS** | page 10



TOWNSHIP OF WAINFLEET

PUBLIC NOTICE

SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Please be advised that Council for the Township of Wainfleet will be holding a special meeting of Council on Wednesday, November 16th, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers located at 31940 Highway 3, Wainfleet. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct a roads tour to educate members of Council on the state and conditions of various municipal roads. Agendas will be available on the Township's website and at the Municipal Office on Thursday, November 10th. Any inquiries with respect to this matter should be directed to Mrs. Tanya Lamb, Clerk at (905) 899-3463, extension 226 or tlamb@wainfleet.ca.

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Dr. Andrew Taylor knows how challenging it can be for consumers deciding on laser vision correction procedures. Understandably any one would be confused by the wide range of fees associated with laser eye surgery. Some centers are offering quotes as low as \$299 per eye with very vague guarantees. Consumers have caught on to the fact that these fees are never really as low as they seem. If you can't trust the advertised price, then how can you trust that provider to perform your surgery? These are your eyes, and the best guarantee in laser eye surgery comes directly from your surgeon, equipment and the professional staff that support both.



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He lectures internationally in the field of laser eye surgery and on laser platforms. He is involved in the regulatory studies for the approval of new devices and procedures. Dr. Andrew Taylor has chosen the Zeiss MEL 80TM Excimer laser and the VisuMax Femtosecond Laser as his preferred platform. Carl Zeiss is internationally renowned for their expertise in optics, their lenses are likely to be the ones you use at home in your cameras. Carl Zeiss Meditec utilizes advanced engineering profiles which produce superlative, predictable refractive outcomes which is what you want as a refractive eye patient.

The Zeiss MEL 80TM Excimer laser custom treats every eye with Wavefront technology. This laser is one of the fastest in the world; it uses dual eye tracking for accuracy and centration. It also uses aberration-optimized algorithms to reduce the incidence of night glare. Visual quality and stability is unsurpassed with the Carl Zeiss laser platform. The MEL 80TM laser has the newest technology providing correction for the presbyopic population. It is known as Zeiss BLENDED VISION, and is based on the principal of micro- monovision. It allows the eyes to maintain different focusing depths. Both eyes are corrected for intermediate distance at all times with one eye having a range of vision extending to distance and the other eye having a range of vision extending to near. This creates a functional range of clear vision across all visual fields; near, intermediate and far. The laser reshapes the cornea using different power zones to create useful spherical aberration; making the image disparity between the two eyes so small that the brain doesn't notice which eye it is using for far and near. This is the most exciting device in laser eye surgery today; treating 'old age eyes'.

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Jim, Police Officer

"Wearing glasses and contacts in the line of duty was a huge burden. In varying environmental conditions my glasses would fog up or be covered in moisture from rain or snow, and contact lenses would dry out before the end of a twelve hour shift. I was sceptical about the whole Lasik process but Dr. Taylor and his staff were very knowledgeable and reassuring. I had the Lasik process completed five years ago, I have had no complications and wish I would have had the procedure completed at the start of my career. The clarity with which I can see is remarkable. It is unbelievable that such a short surgical procedure with minimal discomfort can produce such results. I highly recommend Lasik Provision to colleagues, family and friends and would encourage anyone who struggles with glasses and contacts to attend for a consultation."

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Barb, Optometrist

"I am thrilled with the vision sharpness and stability since having laser eye surgery with Dr. Taylor. It has enabled me to work more efficiently without having to put glasses on and off all the time. I am very grateful for Dr. Taylor's skills and professionalism for treating my myopia."



Fatima, Youth Worker

"I am writing this to express my full gratitude and appreciation for Dr. Taylor and his entire staff, having had successful Lasik surgery performed with absolutely no complications whatsoever. I was not only impressed but overwhelmed with the expertise, professionalism, and courtesy that I received from every single person that I came into contact with during the course of that day."



Don, Workplace Safety & Insurance Specialist

"I have referred to it as a minor miracle! After many years of wearing irritating contact lenses and also needing reading glasses, I have now thrown them all away! With my new blended vision I now see clearly near and far. I am absolutely thrilled with the result!"

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■ PLANS

■ SHOWCASE: Students from feeder schools check out Port High

In talks with Transport Canada

FROM PAGE 8

Badawey said the East Village Waterfront CIP, much like its downtown counterpart, is in the design process. He said the city is in talks with Transport Canada to work on the land the organization owns on the west side of Welland St. in order to revitalize it.

"We want to clean it and green it," Badawey said. "We want to ensure improvements are made so that people can enjoy it."

Badawey said the project is expected to begin in 2012 or 2013. However in order for this and the Industrial CIP to begin the city must prioritize its projects in the next few years.

Among the projects to be completed include the Health and Wellness Centre on the city's east side, which is expected to be completed next fall.

"There's a lot of work ahead of us," Badawey said. "We (should) have to decide to do it all at once or work on it in pieces. In my view we should proceed with all."

Badawey said while the city may not be able to afford all the projects at once, it gets the process started. The mayor said components of each CIP should be done based on what funding is available at the time.



EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo

Students from William E. Brown Public School show their Blue Bear pride as Port High's feeder schools watch a junior girls basketball game.

Blue Bears showcase athletic talents

EDDIE CHAU
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — "Go Blue Bears go. Go Blue Bears go."

The electricity could be felt from the bleachers as students from Port High's feeder schools — McKay, Steele St., Oakwood, Dewitt Carter, W.E. Brown and Winger cheered as two basketball teams hit the court for some junior girls

basketball action.

The players from Port High and Eastdale seemed to feed off the positive energy emitted from the stands.

It gave the two teams the confidence and power to play their best last Thursday afternoon in regular season game in front of about 300 students.

Port High teacher John Raso said the annual athletic showcase is a great opportunity for elementary aged stu-

dents to experience the different types of sports offered before they enter high school.

"These guys can get a feel of what game is like at a high school level," Raso said.

Before the game began the students were pumped up courtesy of music by Port High's band. Port High student Sarah Boulton sang the national anthem and then the players from each team were introduced.

During half time two students from each feeder school competed in a free throw competition. The contest was followed by a performance by the Port High dance troupe.

Raso said he's received feedback from current Port High students in the past about how well the showcase day swayed their decision to join a team in Grade 9.

"It helps them give a good perspective on what sport

they like to play," Raso said.

The Blue Bears finished off its season by besting the Eagles 40-25.

The team rounds up the season with a perfect 10-0 record.

Coach Scott Grover said the team showed its strong skills on the court by constantly pounding Eastdale with defensive pressure.

Top scorers for Port High include: Sephra Ruston (10), Jazmin Kikkert-Labeau (10), Sarah Althardt (eight), Madison Edwards (four), Keisi Wikston (four) and Rachel Roy (two).

The Blue Bears will enter league playoffs Nov. 10.

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■ DOGS

Queen Victoria took an interest

FROM PAGE 6

These dogs were taken back to England and one of them was presented to Queen Victoria. She promptly named it "Booby" (as in stolen property). The other three dogs were used to set up a breeding program and thankfully the breed continued on.

The Peke is still dignified, independent and somewhat stubborn. He still likes to lounge around the house like the royal dog he was and enjoy daily brushing to keep him looking beautiful.

The Pom or Pomeranian for years was the most popular of the toy breeds. When they appeared in Britain from Europe, Queen Victoria took an interest in them but wanted them bred smaller than 12 pounds.

Eventually they became tiny dogs

weighing between 3 and 7 pounds and could be carried around easily. The Pom has a foxy look and are alert, spirited and a good little watchdog. Their thick coats demand daily grooming to keep them looking nice.

The Pug was another breed that became popular in England in Queen Victoria's time. They originated in the Orient but his origin is a well kept secret and shrouded in mystery. It is said that he could be from China and a cousin to the Peke but with short hair.

The word "pug" came from the word "pugnus" which means "fist" because the pug's pushed in face looks somewhat like a fist.

But with his big eyes and cute expression he really has a sweet face and because they are always happy, playful and friendly, they are seen everywhere today.

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■ **BACKPACKS:** Port school helps those in developing countries

They're packin' it in at St. Therese School

ALLAN BENNER
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Jasmin Stankewich filled her backpack with lots of pencils, pens, and even a few stuffed animals and a doll.

The Grade 4 student at St. Therese school put 10 different items in the backpack, and they were all things she'd have liked to keep. But those items weren't hers. And she hoped an unknown girl in Guatemala would enjoy those items as much as she would.

Her classmates Marissa Syers included a toy piano in

the backpack she filled with donations for a child in the developing country, and

Tabitha Charette made sure the backpack she filled included sports equipment.

Melanie Berardocco, teacher and Packs of Hope organizer at the school, said students at the school filled a total of 88 backpacks with hundreds of items to donate to children in Guatemala as part of the Packs of Hope Program. In addition, she said the school collected about \$230 in financial donations for the program.

As impressive as that dona-

tion is, she said it's the smallest donation yet.

In the four years the school has been participating in the program, about 450 backpacks stuffed with thousands of items have been sent to children in the Jalapa region of Guatemala.

All items are donated by the school's staff and students, and the community, Berardocco said.

"Any donation helps, so we ask for either money or one item, but some kids bring in full backpacks," she said.

"The items we're looking for are clothing and school

supplies, toiletries, sporting goods and toys."

Students who participate are welcome to fill the backpacks with a few special items, in addition to needed items like toothpaste and school supplies.

She said there's a friendly competition amongst the various classes at the elementary school.

The class that donated the most items got to help load the backpacks into a van on Friday, to be shipped to children in Guatemala.

This year, that honour went to the Grade 4 classes.

She said Packs of Hope is affiliated with a program called Wells of Hope, developed by Ted Vander Zalm,

a Niagara Catholic District School Board teacher. The Packs of Hope Program is run in several board schools.



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo
Grade 4 St. Therese School students Christian Vurro, Marissa Syers, Jasmin Stankewich and Tabitha Charette show some of the items students from the school packed into 80 backpacks bound for children in Guatemala, as part of the Packs of Hope Program.

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■ WATERMAIN BREAK

Staff decided to keep school closed

EDDIE CHAU
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Students and staff of Lakeshore Catholic High School were treated to an unplanned day last Monday.

The school was closed as Port Colborne public works crews worked on repairing a watermain break on the edge of the school's student parking lot. Excess water could be seen streaming down nearby storm drains as personnel worked hard to repair the damage.

Ron Hanson, director of operations and engineering for the City of

Port Colborne, said the break occurred at 10:30 p.m. on Sunday. Hanson said crews worked to repair the damage until 4 a.m.



EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo

City of Port Colborne crews work on a watermain break at the parking lot outside of Lakeshore Catholic High School recently. The school was closed to school and staff.

A hydrant line was also damaged at the time Hanson said. The hydrant line was repaired Monday morning.

John Crocco, director of

education of Niagara Catholic District School Board, was informed the break occurred in several areas around the school.

"Some old pipes broke in a

few locations," said Crocco, a former Lakeshore principal. "It was early enough to make the best decision for the staff and students by closing the school for the day."

Crocco was informed by the city that the water main break affected the school and neighbouring properties. He was told work was completed within six hours of the original break.

The break posed as a health and safety risk to the occupants of the school. Crocco said the board has an emergency procedure in place to promptly inform students and staff.

News was also posted on the school board's website along with social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

The school reopened the following day

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THE TRIBUNE

■ **STANDS:** Students build stands for athletic field

Sitting ovation

EDDIE CHAU
inPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — There were many sounds coming from the gridiron at Lakeshore Catholic High School last Tuesday morning.

Grunts and the clanking of helmets and shoulder pads dominated one end as the Gators junior football team was out for an early practice. The sounds of drills, hammers and metal bashing came from another end.

Come Friday, when the school's senior team hosts the Notre Dame Fighting Irish in the final game A game of the regular season, spectators will have another reason to cheer.

If students from the school's special high skills major construction program complete their assignment on time and finish

the installation of bleachers, football fans will have a comfortable place to sit on the sidelines as they cheer the action on the field.

Lakeshore technology teacher Joe Sciarra organized the installation of the school's new bleachers along with colleagues Mike Stevenson and Tino Nuccitelli. Sciarra said the students will be working morning to night for the rest of the week until bleachers are installed.

"They all came in Tuesday morning ready to work. We will be out here all day probably until dark," Sciarra said. "When we're done. There will be seating here for 450 people."

The bleachers are a welcome addition to Lakeshore's outdoor athletic area which already boasts a field for football, lacrosse, rugby as well as soccer, running track and

pit. The seating area will give spectators a great view of all athletic events year-round.

Work started on the bleachers late last week with the pouring of concrete for a foundation. Construction students spent this past week fastening the bench and support structures that make up the bleachers.

Sciarra said the installation gives the students real-life opportunities to practise the skills they learn in the classroom.

"It's about bringing them out of the classroom to learn," Sciarra said.

The total cost of the project is about \$45,000 with money raised through private donations and fund-raising. Principal Danny DiLorenzo said the primary fundraising was done through the Lakeshore Booster Club, a fundraising



EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo

From left, Notre Dame co-op student Brad Hardy, along with Lakeshore Catholic students Tyler Dekker, Malick Joseph, Oscar Medrano and John Wielink, work to spread concrete to build the foundation for Lakeshore's new bleachers.

group made up of parents of the football team.

"They got together to raise money over two years," DiLorenzo said. The bleachers are a huge component of the high school's

athletic facility, which also includes a modern scoreboard. He said the community has also been helpful with companies donating materials such as the concrete towards the construction.

"This couldn't be done without the community," DiLorenzo said.

Lakeshore will be celebrating its last game of the season with a pep rally before kickoff. The Gators will hit the field at 1 p.m.

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CLASSIFIEDS

■ LUCY'S CAFE: Restaurant owner helps Out of the Cold



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Out of the Cold volunteer Donna Birrell joined Lucia Overholt of Lucy's Cafe and volunteers Linda Lamarche, Bonnie Harris and Leslie Kennedy in serving a pasta dinner at the Guild Hall on Tuesday evening as part of the program's weekly dinners.

Feeding the need

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE – Warm meals warmed hearts as the Out of the Cold Program held its weekly dinner last Tuesday evening.

About 50 participants packed the Guild Hall and were treated to a pasta dish, salad, beverages and dessert served up by volunteers.

Lucia Overholt of Lucy's Café, who is a frequent supporter of Out of the Cold, prepared the main course.

Having met one of the program's volunteers at the Guild Hall's Maker's Market during the Farmer's

Market, Overholt learned more about the cause, which inspired her to give back to the community.

"I've been doing it for a few years now," she said, adding that knowing some of the program's clients personally makes it a cause close to her heart.

Overholt said that there are many in Port Colborne that need assistance and for

her, donating the meals is not about receiving recognition but the ability to help others.

"There is a lot of need," she said. "I just want the people to enjoy some good food."



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SUN MEDIA



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CHRISTMAS AT MAKERS' MARKET

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Come join us for a special night of shopping from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Local artisans offering their handmade baking, quilting, woodworking, pottery, art work, Christmas decorations and muchmore. Hot apple cider and cookies provided. Door prizes.

SATURDAY, NOV. 12

Port Colborne Optimists Club is getting ready for its 6th Annual Christmas Bazaar. The event will include a selection of crafters, a penny sale and a bake table. A luncheon will be served – homemade soup and sandwiches. Doors open at 10 a.m. and it runs until 5 p.m.

The bazaar is being held at the Lions Hall on Chippawa Rd. in Port Colborne. For more information or if you are a crafter and are interested in participating, please contact

Sue at 905-834-7988.

Come out for a fun day of shopping, lunch with a friend and take home some homemade goodies. There will be something for everyone.

TUESDAY, NOV. 14

The Port Colborne Historical Society will meet at 7 p.m. at Port Village Retirement Home. Hobbist Arthur Groom will speak on Military Medals and Insignia. All welcome. Call 905-835-2291 for more information.

SATURDAY, NOV. 19

Central's Winter Faye and Silent Auction from 10 a.m.

to 2 p.m., featuring Cookie Walk, Christmas Ornaments, Meatballs, Canning, Sewing, Knitting and Gourmet Popcorn. Light lunch for \$5 at Central United Church 30 Delhi St.

SATURDAY, NOV. 26

St. John's Lutheran Church, 3837 Netherby Rd., Craft and Bake sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring our famous gift baskets and fabulous pies and baked goods. Our funds will generously be matched by Faithlife Financial.

WAINFLEET LIBRARY

ONGOING

Computer workshops and one-on-one training are available at the Wainfleet Township Public Library Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Please call the Library at 905-899-1277 for more details.

THURSDAY, NOV. 3, 10, 17, 24 and DEC. 1 and 8 - PRESCHOOL

Story Time for ages 2-5 at the Wainfleet Township Public Library from 10 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. A six-week program of stories, songs, activities and

crafts runs Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Each child must be accompanied by their parent/caregiver. Please call the Library at 905-899-1277 to pre-register your attendance. This session's theme: It's Getting Chilly at Your Library.

THURSDAY, NOV. 10

Philosopher's Cafe at the Wainfleet Township Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Drop by for a lively discussion. This month's topic of discussion is "Wind Turbines Yes or No?" All welcome. No philosophy training required, real life experience desired.



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 **SUN MEDIA**



Today's Youth... Tomorrow's Leader

Nominations are now being accepted for the Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Awards

The strength of our community lies in solid citizens.

If you know a young person, aged 6 to 17, who is involved in worthwhile community service; a special person who is contributing while living with a limitation; a youth who has performed an act of heroism; or a 'good kid' who shows a commitment to making life better for others, doing more than is normally expected of someone their age—help us recognize their contribution—nominate them today!

Nominations will be accepted until November 30

Contact this newspaper or the
Ontario Community Newspapers Association at
www.ocna.org or 905.639.8720 ext. 239

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■ inPortbrief

COURT APPEARANCE SCHEDULED FOR COP

WELLAND — A veteran Niagara Regional Police officer charged with assault after an altercation at Vale nickel plant in Port Colborne will return to court next month. The alleged Sept. 6 incident involved the off-duty male NRP officer and a male

security guard.

Another uniformed police officer was also present at the time of the altercation and separated the two men, police said. Const. Darryn Barrow, a 24-year veteran with the NRP, has been charged with assault. His case was before Welland court last Friday and has been adjourned until Dec. 9.



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Miscellaneous A230

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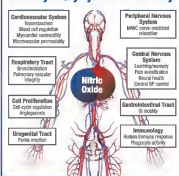
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